



**MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL**

Québec 

PRESS KIT

Source: Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal  
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## **THE HISTORY OF THE MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL**

The Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal was founded by the Québec government in 1964, at the instigation of artists and collectors who wanted to see an institution established to build a collection of contemporary works by artists from Montréal, Québec, Canada and around the world.

The Musée opened to the public in March 1965 in temporary premises at Place Ville-Marie. It was housed at Château Dufresne from 1965 to 1968, when it moved to the Expo 67 Gallery of International Art, at Cité du Havre. In 1983, the museum was made a provincially owned corporation with the following mission: "To make known, promote and preserve contemporary Québec art and to ensure a place for international contemporary art through acquisitions, exhibitions and other cultural activities."

Truly a museum for the twenty-first century, the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal stands right next to Place des Festivals, in the heart of the Quartier des Spectacles and on the Place des Arts site. It is part of Canada's only cultural complex devoted to both the performing and visual arts.

Canada's premier museum dedicated exclusively to contemporary art, the Musée offers a varied program ranging from presentations of its Permanent Collection to temporary exhibitions of works by Québec, Canadian and international artists. The Permanent Collection comprises nearly 7,600 works, including the largest collection of art by Paul-Émile Borduas. With the support of its Education and Documentation Service, the museum presents a host of educational activities familiarizing the general public with contemporary art. It also stages numerous multimedia events : performances, contemporary music, video, film—further fulfilling its mission of promoting contemporary art.

## **BIOGRAPHY | ALEXANDRE TAILLEFER** **CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF THE MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL**

**Alexandre Taillefer**  
**Senior Partner, XPND Fund L.P**

Alexandre Taillefer, a senior partner since 2011 with XPND Fund L.P., an investment fund with interests in technology, media and entertainment companies, is a born entrepreneur who has made a name for himself in the development of new technology companies. After studying computer science at the Université de Montréal and administration at the École des Sciences de la gestion at UQAM and at HEC Montréal, in 1993 he became the founding president of Intellia, later Nurun, a leader in web development in Canada. In 2001, he founded Hexacto, which in just two years became the leader in mobile games before being bought by Jamdat Mobile and then Electronic Arts. In 2007, he co-founded Stingray Digital, a company specializing in digital entertainment.

Chair of the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal since May 2012 and chair of Montréal's advisory committee on public art, Mr. Taillefer also sits on the board of numerous companies, including C2.mtl, gsmprjct, Lumenpulse, BeHaviour and iPerceptions, and is a member of the Montréal, Cultural Metropolis steering committee. His involvement in the culture sector began in 2005 with his successive appointments to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts' acquisition committees for Canadian and then international art. He was also Chairman of the Board of the Opéra de Montréal from 2006 to 2012.

## **BIOGRAPHY | LESLEY JOHNSTONE** **CURATOR, MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL**

Lesley Johnstone is a curator at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal. She co-curated the Québec Triennial 2011 and has curated solo exhibitions by such artists as Valérie Blass, Luanne Martineau, Lynne Marsh, Francine Savard and Tino Sehgal, as well as the group exhibition Yesterday's Tomorrows.

She is currently preparing exhibitions featuring Eve Sussman and Patrick Bernatchez. Johnstone was Artistic Director of the International Garden Festival at the Jardins de Métis from 2003 to 2007, and Head of Publications at the Canadian Centre for Architecture from 1998 to 2003. Long associated with Artex information centre, Lesley Johnstone has written many catalogue texts and has edited a number of anthologies, exhibition catalogues and monographs on contemporary Canadian art.

## **BIOGRAPHY | MARK LANCTÔT** **CURATOR, MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL**

Born in Montréal in 1974, Mark Lanctôt completed his master's in art history at the Université de Montréal in 2002. He has published articles in Canadian Art and Esse: Art + Opinions, among other magazines. Before joining the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (MACM) in October 2006 as a curator, he worked as an independent curator and was director of the Contemporary Art Galleries Association (Montréal).

At the MACM, he coordinated the presentation of the show by Israeli artist Guy Ben-Ner (February 2007) and the exhibition Arnaud Maggs: Nomenclature (February 2008). He curated solo exhibitions by Yannick Pouliot (February 2008), Tacita Dean (October 2009), Marcel Dzama (February 2010), Runa Islam (May 2010), Daniel Young & Christian Giroux (February 2011), and Pierre Dorion (October 2012); and co-curated the first two editions of The Québec Triennial (2008 and 2011) and the Claude Tousignant retrospective (February 2009). He was also responsible for a presentation of works from the Collection, exhibition titled Cubes, Blocks and Other Spaces (November 2009).

Lanctôt has been an outside member on committees evaluating fine-arts students at Concordia University and has sat on various juries, including those for the Pierre-Ayot and Louis-Comtois prizes (city of Montréal), the Giverny Capital award, public art projects for the city of Montréal and the Prêts d'œuvres d'art collection of the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec. He is also a member of the Association of Art Museum Curators (AAMC).

He is currently preparing a major exhibition of the work of Michel de Broin (May 2013) and the presentation of Beat Nation: Art, Hip Hop and Aboriginal Culture (October 2013).